GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1341
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2016
Gems and Jewellery Industry
Ahmed Shri Sultan

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken/ proposes to take measures to strengthen the Gems & Jewellery Industry in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the details of the contribution of this sector to current GDP, employment and exports from the country; and
(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make this industry more competitive and employment oriented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b) With a view to strengthen the Gems & Jewellery industry in the country, the Government has taken a number of steps such as establishment of Special Notified Zone (SNZ); announcement of separate ITC HS Code for lab-grown diamonds; introduction of Gold Monetisation Scheme; amendment of wastage and value addition norms for gems and jewellery items; approved scheme for setting up of Common Facility Centres for gem and jewellery sector; and providing financial assistance for participation in international fairs, organizing buyer-seller meets etc. under Market Development Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiative (MAI) Schemes of the Department of Commerce to boost the industry.

(c) The share of Gem and Jewellery Sector is about 6-7% in India's GDP and 15.05% in the country's total merchandise exports. The sector currently employs more than 4.64 Million employees.

(d) The measures taken by the Government to make this industry more competitive and employment oriented have already been mentioned in Part (a) & (b) of the answer.

--- x ---